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## BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS)



### ANNUAL REPORT

OF

# MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR 1953

THE RIDLEY PRESS, ST. IVES AND CAMBRIDGE



## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
BOROUGH OF SAINT IVES (HUNTS.)
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1953

To:-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Saint Ives (Hunts)

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. CALDWELL,

Medical Officer of Health

#### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. (Resigned 30th April, 1954.)

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H. (Commenced 14th June, 1954.)

SANITARY INSPECTOR—

G. G. YEANDLE, M.R.S.I.

#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area Rateable Value Value of Penny Number of inha Population	Rate bited	 house	• • •	• • •		£2	acres. 21,044 £83 1,088			
VITAL STATISTICS										
LIVE BIRTHS Legitimate Illegitimate Total	M. 36 3 — 39 —		4	Birth-ra estimate (Ditto and Wa	d popu	ulation nglan	n 23.2 d			
Still Births Legitimate Illegitimate Total	2 0 — 2	I 0 — I	3 0 - 3	Rate pe (live an (Ditto and Wa	d still) for E	Births nglan	37.97 d			
DEATHS (all ages)	14	20	34	Death-restimate (Ditto and Wa	d populor for E	ulatior nglan	n 10.4			
Deaths of Infan	ts un	der 1	year				Total			
Legitimate Illegitimate	• • •	••	•	•••••	0	2 0	4 0			
		Л	Cotal	•••	2	2	4			
Death-rates of In All infants p (Ditto for Legitimate in Illegitimate in	er 1,0 r Engl nfants	ooo liv land a per	ve birtl ind Wa 1,000	ns ıles) legitimat	e live l	 births	~ ~			

#### CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar-General's List)

List No	. Cause		Μ.	F.
I	Tuberculosis, respiratory	• • •	O	O
2	Tuberculosis, other	• • •	O	0
3	Syphilitic		O	0
4	Diphtheria	• • •	O	O
5	Whooping Cough	• • •	O	0
6	Meningococcal infections	• • •	O	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	• • •	O	0
8	Measles	• • •	O	О
9	Other infective and parasite diseases	• • •	O	O
IO	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	• • •	O	0
II	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	• • •	2	O
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	• • •	O	I
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus		O	O
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	• • •	O	3
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	• • •	0	0
16	Diabetes		O	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system		2	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	• • •	3	I
19	Hypertension with heart disease		O	O
20	Other heart disease	• • •	4	4
21	Other circulatory diseases	• • •	I	2
22	Influenza		0	0
23	Pneumonia		O	I
24	Bronchitis		0	I
25	Other diseases of respiratory system		0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		O	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	• • •	I	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis		0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate		O	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	• • •	O	0
31	Congenital malformations		0	I
32	041 - 16 - 1 131 16 11'		I	I
•	Motor vehicle accidents		O	0
34	All other accidents		0	0
35	Suicide			I
36	Homicide and operations of war		0	0
	Total from all causes	• • •	14	20

# GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The following laboratory facilities have been available in this Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:—

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C., Tenison Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

#### (b) Ambulance Services

- (i) Ambulance administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service have been available on doctors' orders. Tel.: Huntingdon 348.
- (ii) An ambulance stationed at Huntingdon Isolation Hospital has been available for cases of infectious disease. Tel.: Huntingdon 59.

#### (c) Home Nursing

A nurse-midwife, resident in St. Ives (Tel.: St. Ives 2228), employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council, carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the Borough.

#### (d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following Health Services are provided by the Huntingdon County Council:—

and the same of th		manufactured and the state of the	and in this contract of the same of the sa		
Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held		
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	3rd Friday in month. 10.30-11.30 a.m.	Health Clinic, Station Approach St. Ives.		
Infant Welfare	Children (o-5 yrs.)	Every Friday. 2-4 p.m.	Ditto.		
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren. Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	3rd Friday in month. 10 a.m12 noon. 2-3.30 p.m.	Ditto.		
		Every Wednesday (except 2nd in month) and every Saturday.  10 a.m12 noon. (By appointment.)	Dental Clinic, Princes Street, Huntingdon.		

(ii) The following Health Services are now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, but are administered on an agency basis by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	Ist and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency).  10 a.m12 noon.  2 p.m4 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Orthopaedic	Ditto.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in month (Surgeons by appointment). 10 a.m12 noon.	Ditto.

(iii) The following Health Services are now provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday. 10 a.m12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Mondays, 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4-6.30 p.m.  Males: Mondays, 5.30-7 p.m. Wednesdays, 5.30-7 p.m. Females: Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon Thursdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Out-Patient Department, Memorial

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patients' Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) Hospital Services

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, all hospitals in the area came under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

Fever.—Huntingdon Isolation Hospital provided facilities for the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases.

General Hospital Services are provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases can be admitted to Paxton Park Maternity Home, St. Neots. Admissions are arranged by the County Medical Officer.

#### SANITARY CONDITIONS

1 (1) Water.—The same arrangement for the purchase of water in bulk from the Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board has been continued during the past year, further extensions have been made to cover the new Council Housing Scheme which is under course of construction.

On the whole the pressure maintained has been satisfactory and although the properties on the outskirts of the Borough which are situated at a higher level were affected at times, the trouble was generally traced to pumping plant difficulties rather than the lack of water. The treatment of the water remains the same and was carried out by the Board at the source by Chlorination.

The total consumption during the year was 39,492,000 gallons which is a decrease of 372,000 gallons on the previous year. One hundred and forty-five samples were taken in the district during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, for examination and report, four were found to be unsatisfactory and in each case found to be caused by faulty taps.

The total rainfall for the year was 17.68 inches which is well below the average for the district and 4.93 inches less than the previous year which was also below the average, in spite of these conditions no complaints were received as to shortage from the remaining private supplies.

Name of Town, Village, or Parish	Source of Supply:— Public Supply, Wells, etc.	Sufficiency or Otherwise	Quality of Water	Analysis of Individual Supplies:— Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, or none		
St. Ives	Purchased in bulk from Chesterton and St. Ives Joint Water Board.	Satis- factory.	Satis- factory.	141 analyses were satisfactory from the Public supply. 4 were unsatisfactory and were corrected.		

Number		imated Nu wellings S		Estimated Population Supplied			
of such Analyses	Direct from Main Supply: 1,018	By Stand- pipes: 45	By Public or Private Wells:	Direct from Main Supply: 3,062	By Stand- pipes:	By Public or Private Wells: 75	

(2) Drainage and Sewage.—Apart from general maintenance no works of importance have been carried out.

Extensions have been carried out to cover the housing schemes under construction, and a small disposal works is being constructed to deal with the effluent from fifty-eight houses. The provision of an up to date sewage scheme is still an urgent matter but has once again been passed over owing

to the heavy expenditure which would be involved and without substantial Government grants there is little likelihood of the matter proceeding.

2 Rivers and Streams.—The rainfall during the year being well below the average, no flooding of any consequence

was experienced during the year.

The usual maintenance of minor ditches was carried out and the principal dyke which takes the major discharge of the town was cleansed by drag-line as far as the River Great Ouse. This work greatly assists in preventing flooding in the streets of the town during heavy storms.

The Great Ouse River Board being responsible for the maintenance and control of the main river carried out the normal weed cutting programme which also helped in pre-

venting flooding.

3 (1) Closet Accommodation.—With the exception of one or two properties which were erected beyond the existing sewage system all new houses were connected to the existing sewers.

No alteration was made in the collection and disposal of night soil. The Council carrying out the work by direct labour as during previous years, no complaints were received during the year.

(2) **Public Cleansing.**—The Council once again entered into a contract with the St. Ives Rural District Council for the collection and disposal of house refuse and this arrangement has proved satisfactory both financially and otherwise, the Rural District Council as in previous years providing the necessary vehicles, drivers, and tip, the Borough assisting in providing the loaders.

In spite of the fact that further housing extensions have taken place, through continuing to adopt kerbstone collection it was found possible to cover the area in one day and in con-

sequence costs have been kept down considerably.

Owing to the fact that waste paper and salvage materials in general have not been in short supply the collection of salvage has not been reintroduced.

- 4 Shops and Offices.—No complaints were received during the year, a few minor improvements were carried out by owners.
- 5 Camping Sites.—No application for licensing camping sites were received during the year and no licences have been granted in the Borough previously.
- 6 Smoke Abatement.—No complaints of nuisances caused by smoke were received during the year and none were observed.
- 7 Swimming Baths.—The question of improving and opening the existing open-air swimming pool or constructing a new one was considered once again and a joint committee with the Hunts. County Council and the St. Ives Rural Dis-

trict Council was formed to discuss the matter, it being considered that unless assistance was forthcoming both financially and otherwise from other outside bodies the provision and upkeep of a swimming bath for the Borough alone was not a practical proposition, no definite decision was arrived at and the matter was left in abeyance.

8 Eradication of Bed Bugs.—No complaints of infestation were received and no cases of infestation were found during inspections throughout the year.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (a) Milk Supply.—None of the milk which is produced in the Borough is retailed in the area. The supply, which is distributed by bottle and is chiefly Pasteurised, is obtained from the St. Ives Rural District and neighbouring areas.
- (b) Meat.—The Ministry of Food again occupied the Borough Slaughterhouse and the same arrangements were continued with regard to the inspection of meat, the Huntingdonshire County Council appointing officials for this purpose.

No private slaughterhouses were used for the slaughtering of animals during the year.

(c) Bakehouses.—There were three registered bakehouses in the Borough for the greater part of the year, one ceasing to operate after eight months of the year and has since been dismantled leaving only two, which have been conducted in a satisfactory manner.

#### INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number on	Number of				
	Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted		
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 (2) Section 7	9 34	26 41	Nil Nil	Nil Nil		
Total	43	67	Nil	Nil		

Defect	Number of cases in which defects were found					
			Referred			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector			
Want of Cleanliness						
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation Other Offences	3	2		2		
Total	3	2		2		

#### HOUSING

1	In	spection of dwelling-houses during the year:—	
	(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	183
		(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	201
	(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	6
		(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	6
	(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
	(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those	0
	CD	referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human	
		habitation	25
2		emedy of defects during the year without service formal notices:—	
		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	9
3	Ac	ction under statutory powers during the year:—	
,	(a)		
		(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
		(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
		(a) By owners	О
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
		(I) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
		(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	J
		(a) By owners	0
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the (c)Housing Act, 1936:— (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made 0 (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 0 Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, (d)1936:— (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made . . . 0 (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0 Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end (a) of the year ... ... 0 (ii) Number of families dwelling therein 0 (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 0 Number of new cases of overcrowding reported (b) during the year . . . I Number of cases of overcrowding relieved (c)(i)during the year ... ... ... 1 (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 4 (d)Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding 0 The Council is proceeding with the erection of (e) council houses as rapidly as possible. There are approximately 160 applicants for council houses at present.

Number of new houses erected and number of new dwellings provided by adaptation during 1953:—

New Ho	ouses by	By Adaptation			
Local Private Authority Enterprise		Local Authority	Private Enterprise		
8	3	None	None		

#### **TUBERCULOSIS**

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1953: 26

Pulmonary: 23 Non-Pulmonary: 3

				New Cases				Deaths			
	Age Periods		Respiratory Non		Non-	Res.	Respiratory		Non-Res.		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
О	p •										
1						2 *	• •				
5	* 4				2 1	• •					2 *
10		• •							• •		
15		• •	• •	2		• •	• •	• •	. •		
20		p 4			2			• •	* *		
25				2	I				- ,		
35	• •	* *		* *	I		• •	. ,	0 2		
45	• •	• •	• •								
55	• •	• •		I							
65	and up	wards			• •	* *			* *	• •	• •
		Totals		5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

#### CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

						Total Cases
					1	Notified
Scarlet Fever	• • •		• • •	* * *		2
Whooping Cough	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	I
Diphtheria	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	0
Measles	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	41
Acute Pneumonia	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	6
Puerperal Pyrexia	• • •	•••	• • •	• • •	• • •	O
Typhoid Fever	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	O
Erysipelas	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	O
Acute Poliomyelitis		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	I
Food Poisoning		• • •	• • •	• • •	• • •	I
						52

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year the number of children immunised was as follows:—

Age at Date of Immunisation	Under 1	I	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary Immunisation	10	12	I	_		9	, -	32
Secondary or Reinforcing Injection		_	-	_		43	10	53

The following table gives in detail the Diphtheria Immunisation state within the district of children up to the age of 15 years:—

Age at 31.12.53 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1953	1-4 1952-1949	5-9 1948-1944	10-14 19 <b>43-</b> 19 <b>3</b> 9	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster).					
A. 1949-1953	_	150	200	142	492
B. 1948 or earlier		_	64	133	197



